

Message Text

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NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 EA-06 FRB-03 IO-10 NEA-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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TAGS: OECD, YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAVIA'S PARTICIPATION IN OECD

REF: STATE 38405

1. BY TERMS OF 1961 COUNCIL RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ITS
ASSOCIATION WITH OECD, YUGOSLAVIA'S PARTICIPATION AS
FULL MEMBER IS LIMITED TO FOLLOWING AREAS:

- A. ANNUAL CONFRONTATIONS OF ECONOMIC POLICIES (EDRC)
- B. AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES MATTERS
- C. SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL MATTERS
- D. MATTERS OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PRODUCTIVITY.

IN COUNCIL AND ALL OTHER SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF OECD
EXCEPT THOSE WITH RESTRICTIVE MEMBERSHIP, YUGOSLAVIA MAY
PARTICIPATE AS OBSERVER WITH THE RIGHT TO SPEAK.

2. IN THE AREAS IN WHICH SHE IS ENTITLED TO FULL
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MEMBERSHIP, YUGOSLAVIA'S PARTICIPATION HAS BEEN QUIET

BUT POSITIVE. YUGOSLAVIA APPEARS TO PLACE HIGH VALUE ON THE EDRC PROCESS, SENDING HIGH-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES (USUALLY CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR) TO REVIEWS OF YUGOSLOVIAH ECONOMY AND APPARENTLY PLACING CONSIDERABLE STOCK IN SECRETARIAT ANALYSIS AND COMMENTS. WE ARE TOLD THAT THE OECD REVIEWS ARE CIRCULATED WIDELY AMONG ECONOMIC PLANNERS IN YUGOSLAVIA AND HAVE SOME EFFECT ON THEIR DECISIONS.

3. YUGOSLAVIA HAS BEEN ACTIVE IN THE OECD TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAM (TECO), BENEFITING FROM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS IN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT, INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND URBAN PLANNING. WELL REPRESENTED AT MEETINGS OF THE TECHNICAL COOPERATION COMMITTEE, TUGOSLAVIA'S INTERVENTIONS HAVE BEEN CONSISTENTLY CONSTRUCTIVE AND MODERATE AND SHOW GOOD BACKGROUND AND KNOWLEDGE OF THE SUBJECT MATTER. FOR CY 1975 YUGOSLAVIA WILL CONTRIBUTE APPROXIMATELY 10 PERCENT OF THE OVERALL TECO BUDGET AND BENEFIT FROM PROGRAMS TALLING AROUND \$400,000.

4. IN OTHER AREAS, YUGOSLAVIA HAS BEEN REGULAR PARTICIPANT BUT INTERVENTIONS HAVE USUALLY BEEN LIMITED TO ISSUES OF DIRECT SIGNIFICANCE TO YUGOSLAVIA. IN MANPOWER AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, FOR EXAMPLE, YUGOSLAV REPS HAVE SPOKEN UP FORCEFULLY IN DISCUSSIONS OF EMIGRANT LABOR PROBLEM. IN AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE, YUGOSLAV REP HAS STRONGLY CRITICIZED EC MEAT IMPORT BAN WHICH HAS DIRECT, NEGATIVE EFFECT ON YUGOSLAVIA.

5. AN INVISIBLES COMMITTEE STUDY OF YUGOSLAV TREATMENT OF FOREIGN INVESTMENT PROVIDES AN EXAMPLE OF AN AREA IN WHICH YUGOSLAVIA'S ASSOCIATION WITH THE OECD HAS SERVED HER OWN INTERESTS AS WELL AS THOSE OF OTHER OECD MEMBERS AND ENCOURAGED SOME LIBERALIZATION OF THE YUGOSLAV ECONOMY. THE YUGOSLAVS COOPERATED CLOSELY WITH THE INVISIBLES COMMITTEE STUDY WHICH WAS BEGUN IN 1969 AND ASKED THAT THE REPORT BE PUBLISHED AS A VEHICLE FOR

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ENCOURAGING FURTHER INFLOWS OF FOREIGN TECHNOLOGY.
REPORT AND EXPOSURE TO VIEWS OF OTHER OECD MEMBERS
APPARENTLY LED TO FURTHER LIBERALIZATION OF INVESTMENT
LAWS, AND YUGOSLAVS ASKED THAT IT BE UPDATED IN 1974.

6. AS INDICATED BY THE ABOVE EXAMPLES, ASSOCIATION WITH
THE OECD HAS PROVIDED YUGOSLAVIA WITH A FORUM FOR DIS-
CUSSING PROBLEMS SHE SHARES WITH THE ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL
DEMOCRACIES. IT HAS PROBABLY INCREASED YUGOSLAVIA'S
ACCESS TO WESTERN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND KNOWLEDGE OF
WESTERN TECHNOLOGY AND ECONOMIC POLICY TECHNIQUES. ON A
BROADER PLANE, AFFILIATION WITH THE OECD HAS PROBABLY LED
TO CLOSER LINKS BETWEEN YUGOSLAVIA AND THE WESTERN
DEMOCRACIES AND ENCOURAGED YUGOSLAV INDEPENDENCE FROM
THE USSR AND THE EASTERN EUROPEAN BLOC. THE US AND
OTHER OECD MEMBERS HAVE BENEFITED FROM THIS AS WELL AS
FROM THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENCOURAGE LIBERALIZATION OF
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YUGOSLAV ECONOMIC POLICY, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREA OF
FOREIGN INVESTMENT.

7. YUGOSLAVIA'S ASSOCIATION HAS NOT SIGNIFICANTLY
AFFECTED THE COHESIVENESS OF THE OECD AS A RELATIVELY
HOMOGENEOUS GROUP COMPOSED PRIMARILY OF THE ADVANCED
INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES IN PART BECAUSE YUGOSLAV
REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN OF HIGH QUALITY AND HAVE
DISPLAYED CONSIDERABLE MODERATION AND CAUTION IN THEIR
PARTICIPATION IN OECD BODIES. YUGOSLAVIA HAS NOT SOUGHT
TO INJECT ITSELF INTO ISSUES OF PRIMARY CONCERN TO THE

INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACIES. IN CONSIDERING THE POSSIBLE
ASSOCIATION OF ROMANIA OR OTHER EASTERH EUROPEAN
COUNTRIES, WE SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER NOT ONLY THE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THEIR ECONOMIC PHILOSOPHY AHD THAT
OF YUGOSLAVIA BUT ALSO THE EFFECTS OF THE INCLUSIOH OF
ANOTHER ESSENTIALLY "OUTSIDE" NATION OH THE OECD'S
EFFECTIVENESS AS A FORUM FOR POLICY COORDINATION AND
JOINT ACTION PROGRAMS AMONG THE ADVANCED INDUSTRIAL
DEMOCRACIES.

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